

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAЕ-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01

PRS-01 NEA-10 /099 W

----- 076000

R 060600Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9663

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NDJAMENA 1393

PASS AID

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGSG: ENRG, CD

SUBJECT: FUEL SHORTAGE CHAD

1. IN LAST TEN DAYS CHAD HAS BEEN CONFRONTED WITH WORSENING SHORTAGE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, ESPECIALLY GAH-OIL (DIESEL) FUEL AND GASOLINE. BUTAGAS ALSO IN SHORT SUPPLY. N'DJAMENA ELECTRIC GENERATION PLANT HAS ONLY 4 DAY STOCK OF GAS-OIL AND HAS NO STOCK BUILT UP IN ANTICIPATION OF APPROACHING RAINY SEASON WHICH WILL CUT ROAD BETWEEN N'DJAMENA AND RAILHEAD AT MAIDUGURI, NIGERIA. ONLY ONE OR TWO FILLING STATIONS OPERATING AT ONE TIME IN N'DJAMENA. WAIT IS TWO HOURS TO PURCHASE TEN LITERS FOR SMALL CARS AND 20 LITERS FOR LARGDI VERS. LOCAL TRUCKING INCREASINGLY HAMPERED BY GROWING GAS-OIL SHORTAGE. FOOD DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS BY ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS CARE CONTINUING ON CURTAILED

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BASIS, BUT THREATENED WITH STOPPAGE.

2. AVIATION FUEL SITUATION LESS CRITICAL SINCE MONTH'S SUPPLY ON HAND BUT DEPLETION THIS SUPPLY WILL EXHAUST RAINY SEASON STOCK.

3. EIGHTEEN TANK TRUCKS LOADED WITH GAS-OIL FROM COTONOU REPORTEDLY BLOCKED AT DAHOMEY-NIGERIAN BORDER OVER TAX DISPUTE WITH NIGERIAN AUTHORITIES. GOC HAS REPORTEDLY INITIATED CONTACTS WITH NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE FLOW OF SUPPLIES FROM NIGERIA. COMMENT: LOCAL PETROLEUM COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE EXPRESSED OPINION SHARED BY NUMBER OF HIS COLLEAGUES THAT SHORTAGE CHAD DUE TO EFFORTS NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT TO RECONSTITUTE STOCKS DEPLETED DURING LAST YEAR BECAUSE OF PORT DAMAGE, REFINERY CLOSING, AND LABOR PROBLEMS. AS A RESULT, HE BELIEVES CHAD HAS BEEN OVERLOOKED AND THAT ONLY STRONG GOC INTERVENTION HAS ANY HOPE OF ALLEVIATING SITUATION.

4. FOR LAGOS. ONE STORY HERE HAS BEEN THAT NIGERIA HAS PLACED EMBARGO ON EXPORT OF ALL NIGERIAN REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND THAT AS A RESULT, AVAILABLE SUPPLIES FOR CHAD HAVE BEEN DRASTICALLY CUT. CAN YOU CONFIRM THIS? LITTLE

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